

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

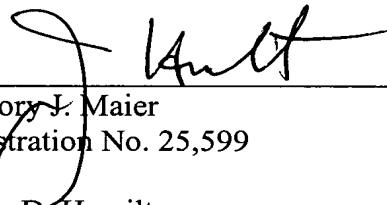
Claims 11 and 13-20 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph and Claims 21-23 have been allowed.

Considering then the rejection of Claims 11 and 13-20 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, it is to be noted that each of Claims 11, 13 and 14 have now been amended so as to claim that the means for controlling the amount of preliminary bending comprises a heater incorporated into the sticking means as disclosed on page 8 of the specification and as illustrated in the present application. It is therefore submitted that such claims and the claims dependent therefrom now properly claim a nexus or structural relationship with the upper mold. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration of Claims 11 and 13-20 is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner prefer a different wording in this portion of the claims, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney so that mutually agreeable claim limitations can be agreed upon.

The Examiner's indication of allowance of Claims 21-23 is hereby acknowledged and is sincerely appreciated. In view of the allowance of these claims and in view of the amendments made to the remaining independent claims, an early and favorable Office Action is believed to be in order and the same is hereby respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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